



**NEWS RELEASE
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March 16th, 2022

Coalition Applauds Congressional Hearing Highlighting Benefits of Home Visiting

WASHINGTON, DC – The National Home Visiting Coalition (HVC) and its member organizations today praised the House Ways & Means Worker & Family Support Subcommittee for holding a hearing on the benefits of voluntary home visiting for children and families. The hearing is a significant milestone and the first step in reauthorizing the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program.

“This vital program makes families, children, and communities stronger. Since its inception, MIECHV has been improving health and educational outcomes across the country. Congress should pay close attention to this hearing: the stakes are too high to let this program lapse,” said **First Five Years Fund Executive Director Sarah Rittling on behalf of the Home Visiting Coalition.**

Rittling praised Subcommittee Chairman Danny Davis (D-IL) and Ranking Member Jackie Walorski (R-IN) for their bipartisan commitment to the MIECHV program and for holding today’s hearing.

Families across the country may lose access to critical voluntary home visiting services unless Congress renews this vital program before September 30th. MIECHV has been shown to achieve positive maternal and child health and development outcomes.

A National Home Visiting Coalition (HVC) letter released last week demonstrates the growing, grassroots support for improved maternal health services to address long-standing inequities amplified by COVID-19. The letter underscores the urgency of reauthorizing and increasing funding for this program with a diverse set of more than 600 health care providers, child care providers, parents, policymakers, business leaders, advocates, and researchers from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. It includes three calls to action to ensure the viability of continuing home visiting services for millions of families:

- Increasing MIECHV funding over the next five years to serve more families and communities and support the dedicated workforce.
- Expanding funding for tribes and tribal-serving organizations in American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities.
- Securing the continued availability of virtual home visiting as an option for families.

The letter can be found [here](#).

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The [Home Visiting Coalition](#) is a diverse group of organizations committed to the well-being of children, working to promote continued federal support of home visiting to strengthen families in communities across the country.